

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Rural Production 1946-47

This Bulletin repeats the principal statistics relating to cereals and livestock recently published in Bulletins 11 and 14 and gives data concerning other crops, exports, manures used, implements, employment, etc. some items being provisional. Particulars re varieties of wheat, barley and oats were published in Bulletin 12.

In the various tables in this bulletin, the particulars for 1946-47 are compared with the previous two years and also with the pre-war year 1938-39.

Apart from the comparisons shown in the tables, it is noted that there were three distinct phases in rural activities during the 20 years to 1946. During the few years prior to 1930, the acreage under wheat for grain had increased very rapidly and reached the maximum acreage in that year while the numbers of sheep and cattle had decreased. The second phase was from 1930-1943, when there were substantial increases in the flocks and herds and in the areas of many other crops but decreases in the wheat areas, particularly from 1940 to 1943 when there were shortages of superphosphate and manpower and also controlled planning. The third phase was from 1943 to 1946 with the reversed trend of increased wheat acreages and decreased numbers of sheep and cattle - drought losses being very severe. The present tendency is for sheep and cattle numbers to be increasing after the drought with cereal areas generally stationary.

Comparing the season 1946-47 with 1930-31, it is noted that there have been decreased acreages for wheat, hay, orchards and tobacco but increases for barley, oats, rye, green fodder, peas, lucerne and clover seed, vines, potatoes and other vegetables, chicory and canary seed. There have also been new crops such as flax, licorice, herbs, blue boiler peas, vegetable seeds, mustard seed, opium poppies, pyrethrum and guayale rubber. Several of the new crops and some of those with increased acreages during the war have decreased again since. During the same period there were increases of sheep, cattle and pigs but a decrease in horses.

The decrease in hay and also in other crop areas would be associated with the decrease in horse numbers as would also the increase in tractor numbers. There were increased areas of pastures top-dressed, and also of crops grown for green fodder, which would be associated with the increased numbers of sheep and cattle.

I AREAS UNDER CROP

Particulars	1938-39	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Wheat for Grain	3,080,401	1,623,145	2,165,004	2,518,948
Barley "	457,039	359,813	441,830	502,005
Oats "	266,842	334,028	369,733	252,325
Rye "	5,273	22,795	33,311	21,753
Peas - Field	16,570	15,986	14,033	11,371
Lucerne, Clover, etc. Seed	2,342	10,067	11,933	19,855
Flax	4	10,548	6,292	2,494
Hay	519,309	428,173	484,060	329,307
Green Fodder	276,021	264,606	191,501	122,221
Vines Wine	36,457	35,613	b 40,112	b 43,712
Drying Table	21,563	21,312	b 17,328	b 13,904
Orchards	28,943	26,484	27,223	28,126
Vegetables - Potatoes	4,290	12,562	8,853	6,191
Other Domestic	5,446	11,296	9,319	10,092
Arseries	177	94	137	140
Chicory	31	129	115	66
Tobacco	39	-	-	-
Canary Seed	3,076	496	320	95
Mustard Seed	-	1,733	2,575	993
Other (a)	267	494	449	151
Total Crops	4,724,090	3,179,374	3,824,128	3,883,749

a) Includes Vegetable Seeds, Herbs, Licorice, Opium poppies, Pyrethrum
Guayale Rubber & Maize. (b) Grapes from areas normally used for drying were
rain damaged and sent to distilleries.

Vegetables for 1946-47 (1945-46) include Green Peas 3,828 (3,033) Turnips and Swedes 526 (631), Carrots 328, (439), onions 521 (511) Pumpkins, Triambles etc. 651 (731), Tomatoes 937 (777), Cabbages 511 (619) Cauliflowers 499 (468), French Beans 445 (434), Beetroot 216 (257), Lettuce 336 (330) Celery 385 (347), Blue Boiler Peas 61 (86) acres.

II YIELDS OF CROPS.

Particulars		1938-39	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
Wheat	Bush	31,674,418	9,244,211	21,033,841	27,906,001
Barley	"	7,541,090	3,184,831	7,566,146	8,424,061
Oats	"	2,401,128	1,316,283	3,178,450	2,780,364
Rye	"	18,469	37,925	140,116	69,754
Peas - Field		96,329	44,084	99,998	121,557
Hay	Tons	585,554	316,802	521,957	432,955
Potatoes	"	18,487	64,154	35,097	29,212
Onions	"	3,892	5,429	4,779	4,774
Tomatoes	Bush	226,691	242,296	248,206	302,078
Green Peas	"	97,918	165,638	133,921	182,231
Carrots	Tons	1,117	7,069	3,538	2,883
Wine	Gall.	11,147,046	10,573,507	20,213,680	24,029,914
Currants	Cwt	191,381	137,920	89,345	N.A.
Sultanas	"	192,926	186,520	130,586	N.A.
Raisins	"	40,212	60,360	45,800	N.A.
Apples	Bush	808,020	617,361	1,001,237	717,811
Apricots	"	343,569	249,065	414,321	461,233
Peaches	"	149,602	132,184	148,057	118,500
Pears	"	195,995	213,021	193,357	276,781
Plums, Prunes	"	134,030	118,217	139,802	114,967
Oranges	"	815,460	841,365	860,885	818,220
Lemons	"	55,862	32,048	28,523	37,832
Almonds	Cwt.	9,994	9,671	10,854	9,352

YIELDS PER ACRE

Wheat	Bush	10.28	5.70	9.72	11.08
Barley	"	16.50	8.85	17.12	16.78
Oats	"	9.00	3.94	8.60	11.01
Hay	Tons	1.13	0.74	1.08	1.31
April-Nov. Rain	Inch.	10.00	8.84	10.74	10.13

Other Vegetable Yields for 1946-47 (1945-46) included - Parsnips 984 (797) tons, Swedes and Turnips 2,155 (2,709) tons; Beetroot 1,660 (1,990) tons; Pumpkins, Triambles etc. 3,784 (4,927) tons; French Beans 79,185 (60,477) bushels; Broad Beans 7,237 (5,562) bushels, Cauliflowers 150,901 (135,392) dozen; Cabbages 213,627 (262,364) dozen, Lettuce 171,612 (164,432) bases; Celery 213,917 (181,651) crates; Silver Beet 19,027 (25,612) dozen bunches.

Other Fruit yields for 1946-47 (1945-46) included cherries 25,077 (35,511) Figs 14,780 (24,032) Nectarines 14,793 (31,215) Grape Fruit 21,676 (16,778) Quinces 23,373 (28,769), Loquats 2,055 (1,228) bushels, Walnuts 675 (1,161) cwts.

Berry Fruits were:- Raspberries 892 (1,143) Gooseberries 1,090 (1,254) Strawberries 1,475 (1,832) Black currants 132 (592), Red currants 20 (89) Loganberries 137 (246), Blackberries 305 (183) cwts.

Oranges were specified as Naval 579,425 (609,285) Valencia 161,818 (182,318) Seville and Poorman 6,624 (6,896) Mandarins 26,973 (24,643). Other seeded types 43,380 (37,743) bushels.

Pears were Canning 192,816 (127,948), Other 83,965 (65,409) bushels.

Peaches were Canning 35,886 (43,749), Other 82,614 (104,308) bushels.

Plums were 39,187 (68,457) and prunes 75,780 (71,345) bushels.

The wine production of 24,029,914 (20,213,680) gallons greatly exceeded the earlier record of 16,159,595 gallons in 1926-27. Considerable quantities of drying grapes were damaged by the summer rains during the last 2 seasons and were sent to the distilleries and wineries, resulting in the record production of wine and decreased quantities of dried vine fruits. The quantity of distillation wine was 14,089,972 (12,104,153) gallons.

RECORD YIELDS. Apart from wine there were no other record yields of crops of importance during the 1946-47 season. Records in past years have been as follows:- Wheat 1931-32 48,093,102 bushels, Barley 1941-42 11,714,002 bushels, Oats 1939-40 4,062,541 bushels, Wine 1945-46 20,213,680 gallons, Currants 1943-44 209,140 cwt. Sultanas 1943-44 533,300 cwt. Raisins 1940-41 89,557 cwt. Apples 1940-41 1,750,000 bushels, Oranges 1940-41 924,122 bushels, Pears 1939-40 279,311 bushels, Almonds 1941-42 11,100 cwts, Apricots 1943-44 551,734 bushels.

III OVERSEA EXPORTS (Years ended June)

Products		1938-39	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
Barley	Bush	2,248,212	199,460	700,910	2,096,668
Wheat	Bush	18,486,303	16,030,672	2,747,022	3,973,043
Flour	Tons	86,678	134,893	104,892	142,423
Butter	lb.	7,385,564	1,685,768	2,407,272	5,969,371
Cheese	lb.	12,907,683	5,056,450	5,778,339	16,624,118
Pork, bacon	lb.	466,462	16,561,363	4,606,524	2,408,724
Cotton	carc	3,299	227,904	16,063	30,444
Lamb	carc.	667,248	736,047	104,861	322,422
Wool (as greasy)	lb.	87,272,802	56,985,080	96,724,000	91,088,000
Currants, raisins	lb.	42,692,777	60,425,915	18,735,731	13,212,916
Vine	gall	3,440,509	929,071	1,355,252	2,216,289
Tree fruits -					
fresh, dried, etc.	£	275,074	7,994	100,779	262,810
Eggs	£	98,911	72,651	443,022	766,925

IV MANURE USED

Particulars		1938-39	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
Crops manured	Acres	4,281,419	2,888,881	3,035,536	3,376,513
Manure used	Tons	179,118	75,616	109,548	139,532
Cropped area manured	%	90.6	72.0	79.4	86.9
Manure per acre	lbs.	93.7	74.1	80.8	92.6
Pastures manured	Acres	1,095,120	725,060	853,699	1,112,130
Manure used	Tons	56,325	27,054	37,599	54,684
Manure per acre	Lbs	115.2	83.6	98.7	110.1

The quantity of manure is that used for producing the crops shown in the seasons stated.

The proportionally lesser acreage under wheat had had a tendency to increase the figures for average lbs. used per acre on crops, 13.3 in 1930-31 to 93.7 in 1938-39, but the shortage in available supplies had caused a decrease to 71.9 lbs. in 1943-44 but it has increased again to 92.6 lbs. for 1946-47. The percentage of cropped land manured also fell from 90.6% in 1938-39 to 69.8% in 1943-44 and increased to 86.9% for 1946-47. The shortage had also been the cause of lesser acreages topped with smaller dressings per acre from 1938-39 to 1943-44, but with increases the last three years. Associated with the subject of top-dressed pastures, it is noted that 120,699 acres of lucerne and 459,616 acres of clover and grasses other than native grasses were grazed during the year, apart from lucerne, clover, etc. harvested for seed or hay.

Particulars re fertilisers used for 1946-47 were

CROP	Area Manured	Super- phosphate	Other Fertilisers	Total per Acre
	Acres	Tons	Tons	Lbs.
Wheat for Grain	2,377,208	86,982	189	82.1
Other Cereals, Hay	901,547	35,369	48	88.0
Vegetables	12,403	2,096	4,078	1,115.0
Fruits, Vines	44,421	3,040	5,778	444.7
Other Crops	40,934	1,783	169	106.8
Total Crops	3,376,513	129,270	10,262	92.6
Pastures	1,112,130	54,498	186	110.1
Grand Total	4,488,643	183,768	10,448	96.9

V. ENSILAGE

		1938-39	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
Quantity made	Tons	6,086	2,749	4,664	4,739
Ensilage Stocks March	Tons	N.A.	2,151	3,186	2,658

VI LIVESTOCK ETC.

Sheep	No.	9,936,586	8,473,939	6,786,538	7,958,618
Cattle - Dairying	"	165,110	186,690	175,696	186,920
Other	"	153,787	204,633	198,400	237,060
Horses	"	195,834	133,003	115,949	109,274
Pigs	"	71,292	160,875	119,986	134,033
Wes Mated	"	4,202,848	4,082,631	3,036,031	3,748,453
Lambs Marked	"	3,077,634	2,579,176	1,469,831	2,837,308
Wool Production	Lbs	102,888,121	106,708,055	73,603,731	92,000,000
Butter made	"	20,716,584	17,247,094	18,541,197	22,050,000
Cheese made	"	18,457,598	18,465,687	22,478,873	28,250,000
Milk production	Gall	72,500,000	72,150,000	79,370,000	93,000,000
Bacon and Ham	Lbs.	5,987,363	10,077,881	11,734,764	11,450,000
Slaughterings		1938	1944	1945	1946
Sheep, Lambs	No	1,588,507	3,065,290	2,016,953	1,661,801
Cattle, Calves	"	167,451	174,850	147,541	146,196
Pigs	"	150,369	237,765	206,298	158,856

Particulars of sheep and lambs - and other livestock - are as at 31st March in the last 5 years, instead of 31st December as previously and, in making comparisons, allowances must be made for slaughterings and mortality from January to March. The flocks at December 1943 probably were in the vicinity of 11,250,000, December 1945 7,200,000 and 1946 8,850,000. The decreases in all kinds of stock during 1944-55 and 1945-46 were due to the severe drought. The total reported losses for the two years were - sheep 2,104,649 apart from unmarked lambs, cattle 49,218, horses 27,731 and pigs 17,432. For 1946-47, the losses were:- Sheep 379,992, cattle 14,829, horses 4,450 and pigs 6,590. The drought caused increased slaughterings of sheep in 1944 and decreases in 1945 and 1946.

VII. PERSONS ENGAGED PERMANENTLY

Particulars		1938-39	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
ales	No.	41,421	33,609	35,746	38,128
emales	No.	2,942	6,212	5,504	4,974
ersons	No.	44,363	39,821	41,250	43,102

Particulars have been collected under the following headings.

		Occupiers Lessees, etc.		Unpaid Relatives		Paid Employees	
		1946	1947	1946	1947	1946	1947
Males	No.	23,351	26,849	3,323	2,898	9,072	8,381
Females	"	3,283	3,291	1,291	1,018	930	665

In 1940-41 particulars were collected showing how principally engaged:-

		Cultivating	Dairying	Pastoral	Total
Males	No.	26,487	4,373	7,797	38,657
Females	"	414	2,334	79	2,827

VIII. MACHINERY, IMPLEMENTS

		1938-39	1944-45	1945-46	1946-47
Tractors	No.	5,969	8,044	9,211	9,456
Engines (stationary)	"	16,841	19,747	19,894	21,121
Ploughs	"	30,609	34,354	33,834	33,379
Cultivators, etc.	"	18,923	24,174	26,652	25,344
Harrows (leaves)	"	105,977	100,719	100,856	104,614
Grain Drills	"	19,203	18,449	18,167	18,074
Binders	"	10,632	9,708	9,618	9,582
Headers, Strippers, etc.	"	N.A.	15,609	15,189	14,966
Milking Machines	"	684	2,206	2,349	2,839
Shearing Machines	"	N.A.	3,770	3,978	4,306

Details for 1946-47 were as follows:-

Tractors. Crawler or track type 2,339, Rubber tyred 5,002, Steel 2,115.
Ploughs. Single Furrow 12,571, Double furrow 20,808
Cultivators. Tandem disc. 4,103, Other disc 2,892, Spring tooth 6,527
 Rigid Tine 6,439, Rotary hoes 752, Scarifiers 2,422 Other 2,209.
Grain Drills. Combine type 12,178. Other types 5,896.
Milking Machines. Unit sizes 1 and unspecified - 106, 2 - 1,468;
 3 - 902, 4 - 299, 5 - 34, 6 - 24, 8 and over - 6, Total 2,839.
Shearing Machines as per number of stands. 1 and unspecified - 1,152,
 2 - 2,316; 3 - 437; 4 - 185; 5 - 66, 6 - 66, All other - 84.
 Total 4,306
 Fertiliser distributors and broadcasters - 2,935.
 Windmills 24,924, Chaff Cutters 12,023, Mowers 4,842, Hay Rakes 7,207
 Hay Presses and Balers 654, Spraying Plants (power driven) 1,275,
 Fruit Graders 311. Potato Diggers 299.
 Motor trucks, utilities or lorries 12,899.

Particulars have not been collected in recent years, but in 1940-41 there were reported to have been 19,957 separators, 6,015 winnowers 6,720 harvesters, 7,024 strippers and 5,604 reaper threshers.

IX. BEEKEEPING

During 1946-47 the record quantity of 8,672,753 lbs. of honey were produced compared with 3,182,042 lbs. in 1945-46 and the previous record of 5,324,611 lbs in 1940-41. The record quantity of 105,788 lbs. of beeswax was produced also. There were 1,099 beekeepers with 69,015 productive and 10,752 unproductive hives.

Statistical Office,

ADELAIDE.

20th October, 1947

A. W. BOWDEN,

GOVERNMENT

STATIST.